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VOLUME 13 No. 5.

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IN PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY BY
WALSH, POLK & RANDOLPH.
E. J. WALSH, J. A. POLK, FERRAN RANDOLPH.

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For one year, in advance, \$2.00
For six months, 1.00
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People Will Talk.
We may get through the world, but 'twill be very slow
If we listen to all that is said as we go;
We'll be worried and fretted and kept in a stew,
For meddling tongues must have something to do.

If quiet and modest you'll have it presumed
That your humble position is only assumed;
You're a wolf in sheep's clothing, or else you're a fool—
But don't get excited, keep perfectly cool.

If generous and noble, they'll vent out their spleen,
You'll hear some long hints that you're selfish
and mean;
If upright and honest, and fair as the day,
They'll call you a rogue, in a sly, sneaking way.

And then, if you show the least boldness of heart,
Or a slight inclination to take your own part,
They'll call you an upstart, conceited and vain;
But keep straight ahead, don't stop to explain.

If threaten your coat, old-fashioned your hat,
Some one, of course, will take notice of that,
And hint rather strong that you can't pay your way;
But don't get excited, whatever they say—

If you dress in the fashion, don't think to escape,
For they'll criticize then in a different shape;
You're ahead of your means, or your tailor's unpaid—
But mind your own business, there's naught to be made.

If a fellow but chances to wink at a girl,
How the gossips will talk and their scandal unfurl;
They'll canvass your wants and talk of your means,
And declare you're engaged to a chit in her teens.

They'll talk fine before you, but then at your back,
Of venom and slander there's never a lack;
How kind and polite is all that they say,
But bitter as gall when you're out of the way.

The best way to do is to do as you please,
For your mind, if you have one, will then be at ease;
Of course you'll meet with all sorts of abuse,
But don't think to stop them, it ain't any use.

Be Kind to the Erring.
BY D. C. McCALLUM.
Be kind to the erring, the humble, the meek;
'Tis the coward alone would trample the weak.
Ye know how deeply the past they deplore—
In charity cover their sins evermore.

Be kind to the erring, the lowly, the sad;
Of circumstance ruled, whose chain driveth mad.
Ah! boast not thy virtue, but on thy heart o'er,
Communion with self crusheth pride evermore.

Commune with thyself, think how reckless thou art,
Enriching thy coffers to wither thine heart;
Take warning by thousands on yonder dark shore—
Remember thy soul must exist evermore.

Cherish good for itself, not measure thy grain;
Such motives are sordidly selfish and vain;
In deeds blessing all, and with heart-gushing o'er,
Flowing on to the ocean of love evermore.

Religion is naught, all pretensions are vain,
If words are still wanting; ah! where is the gain?
As bark cut away on some desolate shore,
As wreck on the deep, thou art gone evermore.

The days fleet away as a meteor's gleam;
Flashing bright as a moment, they fade as a dream;
Yes, dream though it be, yet on far distant shore
Shall in thunder re-echo the past evermore.

As flowers dot the blossom, mere thing of a day;
As breath of the flower then will vanish away;
Let love be thy motto this weary life o'er,
Then in sunshine of love wilt thou dwell evermore.

Bread and Butter.
The girl who makes good wholesome bread,
Shall cause some heart to flutter,
For every man looks for a maid
Who makes sweet bread and butter.

She may not play the game croquet,
Or French or German stutzel,
But well she knows sweetcard from whey,
And makes sweet bread and butter.

In dough or cream she's elbow deep,
And cannot stop to pouter,
She says if he will now and reap,
She'll make him bread and butter.

The dairy-maid—the farmer's wife—
These are the tonsils we utter;
Alone, man leads a sorry life,
He wants good bread and butter.

LETTER FROM HON. W. L. SHARKEY.

The Principles of the two Divisions of the Republican Party Analyzed—the Ultra Radicals Judged by Their Works.

THE PEOPLE ADVISED TO SUPPORT THE CONSERVATIVE REPUBLICANS.

Editor Clarion:—According to a promise made to you a few days ago I now give you briefly my views on the relative claims of the Radical and Conservative parties to the support of the people.

We have now two organized parties in the State, both calling themselves "Republicans," and each contending that it is the true Republican party, and it seems now certain that no other party will be organized, and no other candidate placed before the people except such as may be nominated by these two parties.

Many of the people probably do not harmonize in sentiment with either of them, and yet all will be called upon, and it is no doubt a duty to make choice between them rather than to remain passive. This becomes necessary from the force of circumstances which are beyond control. Mississippi is now under a government not of her own formation, not of her own choice, but a military despotism, forced upon her, and admitted on all hands to be the most tyrannical and odious of all governments. It is barely endurable when administered impartially for the public welfare alone, which unfortunately, is seldom the case with such governments. The State has been deprived of all her relations with, and all benefits that might be derived from the National Government; she is now to all intents and purposes, a dependent province without a local Legislature, without an Executive, with a Judiciary, but subject to the law of force alone.

How all this has been brought about it is now useless to enquire, since such an enquiry could lead to no beneficial results; the people must now deal with the state of things as they find it, so as to relieve themselves from oppression as well as they can. Their participation in public affairs becomes the more necessary, as it is perfectly certain that one or the other of these parties will control the destinies of the State; the practical question is which party will best govern the State, and best protect its citizens in the enjoyment of life, liberty and property. There is certainly a wide difference between the two parties, and whilst many might incline not to co-operate with either, yet to remain neutral would be certain to add to the chances of the success of the most objectionable party. In order to make a proper selection between them, the safest guide will be found in their antecedents, rather than in their present professions, for works at least furnish the best tests for judging parties as well as men.

These two parties are generally known, one as the Radical or Extreme Republican party, and the other as the Conservative Republican party.

The former is the one which was in power in the State in 1868; it formed a Constitution which was rejected by a large majority of votes. That Constitution is matter of record, and as it was formed in the flush of a great party triumph, with every prospect of permanent party ascendancy, it will furnish the best test of the true sentiments, motives and purposes of the party; it will show us very clearly how and by whom it was intended the State should be governed. Had high patriotic motives, looking only to the establishment of a good government, predominated with the party, that was the time and the occasion to show them. Had a spirit of liberality prevailed, that was the time and the occasion to show it. Unfortunately, however, in its important provisions, as well as in many of its details, it looks more like a constitution for a party than for the State at large. I shall confine my remarks on it mainly to its provisions under the head of "Franchise."

This article starts out by manifesting great liberality towards newcomers and transient visitors, in greatly abridging the length of residence heretofore required to give

the right to vote and to hold office. It requires, however, an oath of a most extraordinary character as a qualification to the right to vote or to hold office, in the concluding part of which the party avows that he admits the political and civil equality of all men. Why such an oath should be required can only be matter of conjecture; it certainly was not necessary to protect the ballot; it cannot have even a remote tendency in that way. It must have been obvious that some men would decline to take such an oath, as they would consider it degrading to do so; perhaps therefore it was intended to narrow the circle of eligibility to office and the right to vote.

But the fifth section of the same article, more fully discloses the proscriptive character of the convention—its purposes and its objects, and a total absence of that liberality of that justice, which should ever guide a deliberate body of the kind; in short, it discloses a desire to control and govern the people by a select few, to the exclusion of the many. It declares ineligible to office all members of the Legislature, who voted for a convention which passed an ordinance of secession, or who gave voluntary aid, countenance, counsel, or encouragement, to persons engaged in the rebellion or who accepted or attempted to exercise the functions of any office, civil or military, under the Confederate States, with a saving however, to mere privates in the army. So broad an exclusion, would probably extend to one-third of the citizens of the State. All who were engaged in the military service, from the lieutenant up to the general, including all those attached to the army as surgeons, commissaries, quartermasters, &c.; and in civil life, from the coroner, or justice of the peace up, and all private citizens who aided, countenanced, counselled or encouraged relations or friends who might be engaged in the rebellion.—Even the father who had given shelter and food to his son—the relation who had ministered to the wants of sick kinsmen, are rendered ineligible to office.—In short, almost every prominent citizen in the State—those persons in whom the people had been in the habit of confiding, and to whom they had looked as guides, are made ineligible to office—excluded perhaps, for the exercise of that christian virtue, charity. The proscriptive provisions of the reconstruction plan, including the fourteenth amendment, are certainly very comprehensive, but this goes far beyond them. And the idea forces itself upon the mind, that this was a scheme devised to retain power and place, by making it impossible that either competition or opposition, should come from the permanent citizens of the State, which is the more manifest, as the same section makes a very singular exception in favor of "all persons who aided reconstruction by voting for this convention, and shall continuously and in good faith advocate the acts of the same."

It was known, that many high minded, honorable men, had conscientiously opposed the meeting of the convention; and it was also known, that many such would oppose its actions; all such were to be excluded from office. Was ever a more tyrannical anathema uttered against the freedom of thought and the freedom of action, those great essentials which even Tiberius, a tyrant, held to be necessary to a free government. Those men were certainly ignorant of the great principles of republican governments, or if not, they have shown such a hostility to them as to merit the severest condemnation from a people who have any regard for liberty.

Such a provision could only have been dictated by a determination to retain power, hence all who would give in their adhesion to the party and become its slaves—all who could forfeit self-respect, as well as the respect of his fellow-citizens—all who would forfeit their integrity and their freedom, were exempt from the operation of this proscriptive article.

But if this broad proscriptive provision, by which so many of our citizens are made ineligible to office, could find any justification in principle, the ruinous and dangerous

consequences of such a policy, in such a population as we have, should not, could not, have been overlooked by those who passed it. They ought to have known that they were but sowing the seeds of strife—of discord—of bloodshed. There have been the results of a proscriptive policy in all ages, or history is false. No one can doubt that such results would follow such a policy in a population composed of distinct races, one of which has been but recently emancipated, when that which has been regarded as the inferior, is placed in a position of superiority. But perhaps that difficulty was foreseen as we find in the same constitution a provision for the complete organization of the militia, and for calling it into service at any time. This would be an evil quite as great as any that could be inflicted on a people, who would be sure to become the victims of a remorseless lawless soldiery.

If however, this proscriptive provision was intended as a punishment, it is equally odious. Retrospective punishment, or the punishment of men for past acts, is condemned throughout the civilized world; it is perfectly shocking to the sense of every enlightened people, and especially odious to Americans.

There is another remarkable provision in this constitution, which to my mind, is a direct invasion of the sacred right of trial by jury, and therefore, should excite alarm. It is in the form of a command to the Legislature to provide for the indictment and trial of persons charged with felony in any county in the State, other than the county in which the offence was committed, when from any cause an impartial grand or petit jury, cannot be empanelled in the county where the offence was committed. It is left with the Legislature at pleasure to have a citizen dragged from one end of the State to the other, to be tried by strangers, remote from his neighbors, his friends and his witnesses. This is to give any one county jurisdiction of all the crimes committed in the State, and it may be readily seen what power, what persecution, a partisan Legislature might exist. This is not the trial by jury.

From time immemorial it has been an essential part of the right of trial by jury, that the jurors should be taken from the county or vicinage within which the offense was committed; and I venture to say this is the first instance of a departure from the rule, certainly the first in American jurisprudence. A memorable instance should have admonished the convention, that it was invading the sanctuary of American Liberty. If they had read the Declaration of Independence they would have learned that one of the charges of oppression made by our fathers against the King of England was, "for transporting us beyond the seas to be tried for pretended offences."

To transport a citizen from one end of the State to the other is quite as bad, and no doubt it would often be done for pretended offences, hatched in malice and nourished by perjury.

This is really a startling provision; it has a most decided party aspect. Some of the darkest spots in English history were placed there by servile partisan juries who were subservient to their master's will. Perhaps this provision carried out might be the cause of similar blots on the history of Mississippi; and as the evils are so apparent it is difficult to resist the conclusion that mischief was meditated, or, judging the instrument from its whole tenor, that party supremacy entered into the calculation.

If forming an estimate of the merits and demerits of the ultra Radical party, we cannot overlook its systematic and persevering efforts to induce Congress to force this constitution upon the people after it had been rejected by a majority of seven thousand votes, by means the most discredit and unscrupulous. The party seemed so determined to get into place and power, regardless alike of the people's will and of the means by which its purpose could be accomplished.

Nor can we overlook another important fact: The convention was in session over four months to com-

plete a work which with the many models of constitutions before it, could have been far better done in ten or twenty days. And this session was prolonged at an expense, regulated by itself, of ten dollars a day for each member, besides other contingent expenses, thus costing the State in round numbers, two hundred and thirteen thousand dollars, to be paid by a tax on a people already oppressed with poverty and the burdens of government. It would require great credulity to resist the conclusion that the session was prolonged as a money making job.

This is a brief sketch from the record of one party. The authors of the proposed constitution and the men who attempted to fasten it on the State after its rejection, are its leaders. Can the patriotic people of Mississippi unite with and sustain such a party by their votes? This is the question presented for their determination. That the party may have somewhat moderated in its pretensions may be true, yet it must be remembered it did not do so until defeated in its purpose of forcing the constitution on the people. Its present professions, therefore, cannot be trusted; place it in power it will be emboldened by the force and countenance of a majority, again to put in practice its favorite theory.

The other party known as Conservative Republicans has made no record as an organization in power, but still we have some evidences by which to judge it. Its platform of principles, although in some respects it may be objectionable to many of us, has an advantage over the platform of the other party. It has more of the spirit of justice and liberality, and I will add, of true patriotism. But admitting that this is not of itself a safe criterion, still it stands fortified by facts that cannot be doubted. In the first place, it is an opposition party, a party which sprang up out of opposition to the extreme doctrines of the other party, in regard to State politics merely, and not in regard to National politics, for both profess to be in favor of the administration, and in favor of carrying out the reconstruction measures. Its opposition to the other party must therefore rest on the extreme and illiberal, unpatriotic measures of that party, as delineated in the constitution; it has no other foundation to rest upon. It is also very certain that some of the prominent members of the Conservative party went to Washington to prevent the forcing of the constitution upon us by Congress at the instance and by the exertions of the Committee of the ultra Radical party, sent to Washington for that purpose. I know that these gentlemen did exert themselves to defeat the object of the Radical party as pressed by its committee, and perhaps it is very much owing to their exertions that the radical scheme was defeated. For this we have reason to be thankful to them. It is certain then that one party was not only in favor of the provisions of the constitution but in favor of having it forced upon us; and it is just as certain that of the other party some opposed the whole scheme, and all their representatives resisted the effort to force the rejected constitution on us, and this surely entitles them to our support. No one can doubt that by the success of this party we shall have a more conservative administration of our State government, and I shall rejoice in its triumph over its rival.

W. L. SHARKEY.
JACKSON, July 14th, 1869.

Commissioner Delano has just decided "that a written extension of the payment of a mortgage, requires the same stamp as the original document." Also in relation to promissory notes, as follows: "A promissory note, containing merely power to confess judgment, should be stamped at the usual rate of notes; but if, as is often the case, it contains one or more stipulations in addition such as without having the benefit of the exemption law, an agreement stamp is also required. Some contract of the nature of a mortgage, which should be stamped as such."

Encourage every one, especially new men to come and settle among you, particularly those who are worthy and active, whether they have capital or not. Their labor alone is worth money. Those who have capital will buy lots, build homes or tear out and re-model the old ones. Go to work and stimulate every legitimate enterprise by giving it all the friendly encouragement you can, or by uniting your industry, influence and capital in the common cause. Cultivate a public spirit, and talk less than you work. Help your neighbor. If he is in danger of breaking down, prop him up in some way, either by kind words, good counsel, or a lift from your pocket book. If he gets fairly down before you know his situation, set him on his feet again, his misfortune is to be pitied not blamed—and his talents and labor are worth money to the community. Besides it may some day be your turn in a corresponding sympathy. Encourage your local authorities in making public improvements for the good of the town. Speak well, talk encouragingly of the town you live in, of its prospects of your neighbors, and, in fact, of everything likely to advance the general good. It is such little things that make a town grow. Their cost is insignificant when divided up among all, but when concentrated into a general effort, they do the business thoroughly. And above all sustain your paper, it can do more in building up your town than any other means that could be employed.

Andy Johnson, in a speech in Washington City, on the night of the 1st inst., referred to slave property in the South, valued at three hundred millions, which was productive, self-sustaining and added to the commerce of the world. As this property disappeared, as slaves were made free, these three hundred millions appeared, at the other end of the country in bonds. Where is this property now? Locked up in safes and vaults, non-productive, and a burden to the people.

Mosby spoke at a political meeting in Warrenton, Va., on the 23d ult., and in the course of his remarks said: "Now I happen to know something about Wells. He was Provost Marshal of Alexandria during the time when I was conducting military operations in this county. And I tell you that he never once showed his face outside of the stockade if he had, I would have saved our people all the trouble they have had with him as Governor of Virginia."

The negroes in Virginia are getting tired of carpet-bag rule, and want to take things in their own hands. They had a large public meeting in Richmond, on Friday of last week, in which one of the dusky orators called the carpet-baggers "running-about white men!" Aye, literally "running about," like some hungry animal, looking for some easy place to steal a living.

"That's very singular," said a young lady to a gentleman who had just kissed her. "Oh! well, my dear miss," was the reply, "I will soon make it plural;" and the villain did.

A Western editor, in response to a subscriber who grumbled that his morning paper was intolerably damp, says "that it was because there was so much dew on it."

A drum corps, consisting of thirty-six young women, is one of the features of the spectacle at Niblo's Garden.

What authors uses the most uncommon words? The compiler of a dictionary.

The Canton Citizen is in favor of moving the Capital of the State from Jackson to Canton.

Tom Allen has challenged Gallagher to "put up" for a fight or "dry up."

Can a man who avoids writing be considered a pen-shunner?

The family of the late Henry J. Raymond will soon sail for Europe.

A favorite modern air—Millionaire.